11. Stabilization of cereals prices should continue to be one of the important objectives of food policy. This can be acheived through the operation of a buffer stock combined with timely intervention by the FCI in domestic markets and a liberal import-export policy for foodgrains.

Government funding for construction of godowns

1955. SHRI AHMED PATEL: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government funding is done for construction of godowns in the States to strengthen PDS;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of godowns which came up in Gujarat during the last five years under this pattern of funding, year-wise and district-wise and capacity thereof; and

(d) the authority who has the ultimate control over these godowns in the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme 'Construction of Godowns', financial assistance has been provided to the States/UTs for construction of small godowns upto a maximum capacity of 2000 metric tonnes to meet the requirement of the Public Distribution System. Under the scheme financial assistance is provided as 50% loan and 50 grants-in-aid. Godowns are to be constructed within two years of the sanction of the financial assistance.

(c) Financial assistance sanctioned to Government of Gujarat during the last five years is as follows:

Year	Distt.	Amount Sanctioned (Rs. in lakhs)	No. of Godowns	Capacity (in MT)	Whether construction of godown completed*
1997-98	Banaskantha	21.08	1	1000	Yes
	Kutch	15.31	1	500	Yes
	Valsad	45.93	3	1500	Yes, two godowns of 1000 MTs capacity
	Amreli	24.64	2	750	No
	Surendranagar	21.08	1	1000	No
	Sabarkhanta	15.31	1	1000	No
	Panchamahal	30.62	2	1000	Yes, 1 godown of 500 MTs capacity
	Surat	9.33	1	250	
1998-99 to 2001-02	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	
	TOTAL	183.30	12	7000	

*As per report from State Government.

(d) As per terms and conditions of the sanction, the ownership of the godowns constructed with the assistance from the Central Government is vested with the State Government.

Procurement of sugarcane in UP and Haryana

1956. SHRI NANA DESHMUKH: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether procurement price of sugarcane in UP is Rs. 95 per qunital whereas it is Rs. 120 per quintal in Haryana.